

## **RESEARCH INVOLVING NEXT OF KIN CONSENT**

### Important Note

In case of legal incompetence to give consent, the Guardianship and Administration Act of WA does not provide a legal authority to a legal guardian to give consent for next of kin to participate in research. Participation in such research is only permitted if determined by medical professionals to be in the best interests of the individual. If that is the case then consent is not required but it is imperative to ensure that next of kin are fully informed of what is happening. In practice this excludes almost all but non-invasive research. Please refer to Section 4.2, 4.4 and 4.5 of the NHMRC National Statement for Ethical Conduct in Human for ethical issues.